

ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUITIES OF SCOTLAND.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 3.

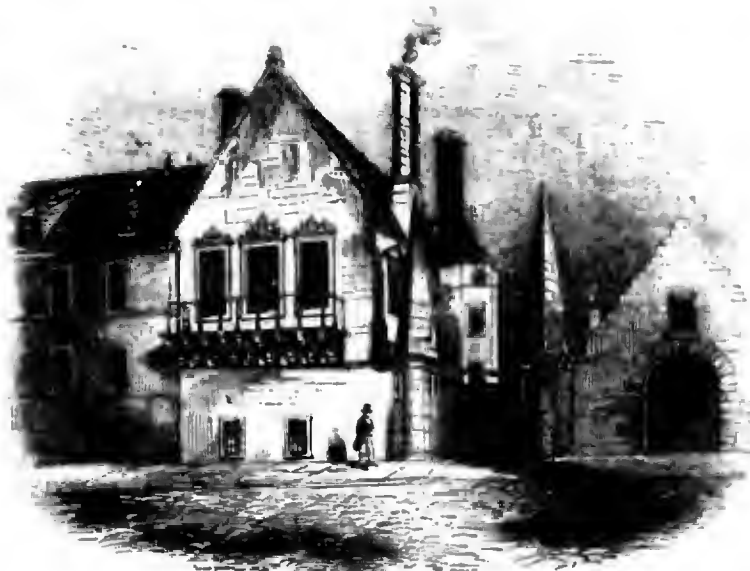


Fig. 2.

BARONIAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL
ANTIQUITIES OF SCOTLAND.*

WHEN Messrs. Billings and Burn commenced their illustrations of Scottish architectural antiquities, we took occasion to direct attention to the work, and to commend the intention warmly.

Eleven numbers of the book are now published, each part containing four plates, engraved by Mr. Le Keux, besides occasional wood-cuts, and do more than bear out the promise of the first. It is intended that the work shall contain at least one representation of every ancient edifice in Scotland worthy of notice, and, if we understand rightly, there will be some supplemental parts, containing plans and details expressly for architects.

The parts already published, contain illustrations of Glasgow Cathedral, Holyrood Palace, Linlithgow Palace, Crichton Castle,

Haddington Church, Trinity College Church, Parliament House, Edinburgh; Heriot's Hospital, Winton House, Moray House, Dunfermline Abbey, St. Giles's Cathedral, and Craigmillar Castle.

The views of Crichton Castle shew a description of external masonry little known in England, in which every stone is cut into facets. Scott, in his *Marmion*, describes the ruins, and thus notices this peculiarity—

"Still rises unimpaired below,
The court-yard's graceful portico;
Above its cornice row on row,
Of fair hewn facets richly show
Their pointed diamond form,
Though there but houseless cattle go
To shield them from the storm."

Ancient architecture in Scotland displays many peculiarities which deserve investigation, and it is to be hoped that the work before us will include some discriminating essays on the subject. The descriptive letter-press which

accompanies the plates is too meagre for a work of this character and importance: the majority of buyers in these times expect more precise architectural description and inferences drawn therefrom than are at present to be found in it, a hint which we trust will be taken in good part, and not lost sight of by its able and spirited conductors, who have apparently put this portion of the work into other hands than their own, thinking it desirable perhaps to avoid giving it too technical a character.

Annexed we give specimens of the wood-cuts which illustrate the work, in addition to the engravings on steel. Fig. 1 shews the north aisle of Trinity College, Edinburgh, ascribed to the fifteenth century, and which, according to our author, is doomed to be destroyed, to make way for the operations of the Railway Company. Surely if some effort were made this destruction might be avoided.

The semi-circular headed door on the left side (this form of arch appears to have been oftener used in buildings of the pointed style

* By R. W. Billings and William Burn. Blackwood, Edinburgh.